

THE PASSIVE VOICE

Active to passive.

1. The government is considering a plan to build a heliport near Westminster Cathedral.
2. The plan has worried a lot of people.
3. The local residents organized a number of meetings.
4. Local businesses are raising money to fight the scheme.
5. A million people visit the cathedral every year.
6. The vibrations from the helicopters might damage the cathedral windows.
7. In future, they won't bring letters to the houses and we shall have to collect them from the Post Office.
8. Someone turned on a light in the hall and opened the door.
9. Someone left this purse in a classroom yesterday. The cleaner found it.
10. They say he is quite an intelligent person.
11. They are demolishing the entire building.
12. Passengers shouldn't throw away their tickets as inspectors may check them during the journey.
13. Has someone picked up the mail yet?
14. I gave her two new books.
15. You must keep dogs on a leash while walking in the park.
16. When they have widened this street, the roar of traffic will keep residents awake all night.
17. They had taken down the FOR SALE notice, so I supposed they had sold the house.
18. They returned the keys to me; someone had picked them up in the street.
19. The milkman brings the milk to my door but the postman leaves the letters in the hall.
20. People steal things from supermarkets every day.
21. Someone stole twenty bottles of whisky from this supermarket last week.
22. Normally men sweep this street every day, but nobody swept it last week.
23. The postman clears this box three times a day. He last cleared it at 2:30.
24. Women clean this office in the evening after the staff has left. They clean the upstairs offices between seven and eight in the morning.
25. We never saw him in the dining-room. A maid took all his meals up to him.
26. They haven't stamped the letter.
27. They didn't pay me for the work. They expected me to do it for nothing.
28. He escaped when they were moving him from one prison to another.
29. She didn't introduce me to her mother.
30. A frightful crash woke me up at 4:00 in the morning.
31. The police shouldn't allow people to park here.
32. They are watching my house.
33. The examiner will read the passage three times.
34. Candidates may not use dictionaries.

Passive to active.

When crimes are committed by the so-called intelligent people, they never imagine that they will be suspected by the police. They believe that if their plans are made with proper care, nothing can possibly go wrong. Their downfall in fact is usually caused by their arrogance. "Such a perfect crime has never been committed by anyone else", they tell themselves, "every detail has been thought of, others may make foolish mistakes, but none will be made by me, I am too clever."